

Message Text

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TAGS: SNAR, MX
SUBJECT:NARCOTICS - DRUG ABUSE PATTERNS IN MEXICO

REF: ALEXANDER/BERNAL TELECON, JUNE 7, 1978

1. FOLLOWING EMBASSY INQUIRIES BASED ON REFTELCON, CENTRO MEXICANO DE ESTUDIOS EN FARMACODEPENDENCIA (CEMEF), THE APPROXIMATE GOM EQUIVALENT OF U. S. NATIONAL INSTITUTE ON DRUG ABUSE, DELIVERED TO EMBASSY JUNE 19 COPY OF AS YET UNPUBLISHED REPORT ENTITLED "PREVALENCE OF DRUG USE IN SELECTED MEXICAN CITIES - HOUSEHOLD INTERVIEWS".

2. STUDY IS BASED ON RANDOM OR STRATIFIED RANDOM SAMPLES IN MEXICO CITY (1974), LA PAZ, BAJA CALIFORNIA (1974), SAN LUIS POTOSI (1975), MONTERREY (1975) AND PUEBLA (1976). STUDY INVOLVED INTERVIEWS WITH SAMPLE OF 4,715 SELECTED TO REPRESENT A FIXED-RESIDENCE POPULATION AGE 14 OR HIGHER OF BOTH SEXES ESTIMATED AT 6.5 MILLION.

3. ACCORDING TO THE STUDY, THE PERCENTAGE OF THE POPULATION INVOLVED IN THE NON-MEDICAL USE OF DRUGS IS AS FOLLOWS IN EACH OF THE STUDIED CITIES:

(A) MEXICO CITY: MARIJUANA, 1.3; INHALENTS, 0.4; HALUCINO-

GENS, 0.3; HEROIN-MORPHINE, 0.1.

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(B) SAN LUIS POTOSI:MARIJUANA, 2.1; INHALENTS, 0.5;
HALUCINOGENS, 0.9; HEROIN-MORPHINE, ZERO.

(C) PUEBLA: MARIJUANA, 0.3; INHALENTS, 0.01; HALUCINOGENS
AND HEROIN-MORPHINE, ZERO.

(D) MONTERREY: MARIJUANA, 1.6; INHALENTS, 1.2; HALUCINOGENS AND HEROIN-MORPHINE, ZERO.

(E) LA PAZ: MARIJUANA, 4.9; INHALENTS, 0.7; HALUCINOGENS, 1.1; HEROIN-MORPHINE, 0.4.

4. FOR PURPOSES OF THIS STUDY, DRUG USE WAS DEFINED AS USE OF THE SPECIFIED DRUG DURING THE 30 DAYS PRECEEDING THE INTERVIEW.

5. WHILE THIS STUDY REPORTS DRUG USE IN THE ENTIRE POPULATION OVER 14, THREE 1972 STUDIES CITED IN THIS STUDY REPORT:

(A) APPROXIMATELY 12 PERCENT OF MEXICO CITY STUDENTS IN GRADES SEVEN THROUGH NINE USED MARIJUANA AT LEAST ONCE AND 1.5 PERCENT USED AMPHETAMINES AT LEAST ONCE. HEROIN-MORPHINE USE WAS NOT DETECTED.

(B) APPROXIMATELY 10 PERCENT OF MEXICO CITY STUDENTS IN GRADES 10 THROUGH 12 USED MARIJUANA AT LEAST ONCE. THIS POPULATION ALSO REPORTED USE OF INHALENTS (10 PERCENT), AMPHETAMINES (10 PERCENT), BARBITURATES (9 PERCENT) AND LSD (1.2 PERCENT).

(C) IN ONE PRIVATE UNIVERSITY IN MEXICO CITY 20 PERCENT UNCLASSIFIED

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OF THE STUDENTS REPORTED "EXPERIMENTATION" WITH MARIJUANA.
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